CLAIMS

What I claim is:

1. **(Currently amended)**

A manual apparatus for use by an operator to slice a potato into a uniformly thin continuous spiral slice, the slice for frying as a potato chip with the apparatus functioning ~~requiring both hands to operate to safely~~ cut the potato slice, with a means for slicing ~~both hands being away from a sharp fixed vertical blade 1~~ and a means for rotating the potato ~~rotating driver teeth 16~~ during cutting and comprising:

[[the]] a cutting element ~~fixed vertical blade 1~~ attached to a support element ~~blade support 6~~, the support element ~~blade support 6~~ being attached to a common mounting element ~~base 8, and the blade angled horizontally 20 degrees from perpendicular to the centerline of a drive spindle 2 with the blade 1 sharpened on one side for cutting~~;

a means for supporting a potato, such means being a potato supporting guide ~~pilot pin 5~~ assembled ~~extending through a hole in the blade 1, the pilot pin 5 being~~ in alignment with the drive spindle 2 centerline and secured in position by a first lock nut 15, the farthest end of the potato supporting guide ~~pilot pin 5~~ being thread connected to the cutting element support ~~blade support 6~~ and ~~the nearest end of the pilot pin 5 functioning to support and position a potato at a cutting edge of the blade 1, and with the pilot pin 5~~ adjusted to contact a forward end of the drive spindle 2 ~~and prevent driver teeth 16 from contacting the blade 1~~ at the end of the slice;

a drive support 7 which is attached to the common mounting element ~~base 8~~, serves as a means for positioning the threaded American Standard Uniform Thread Form drive spindle 2;

a means for manual rotation utilizing ~~cranking with a crank handle 4 on the end of~~ a threaded, American Standard Uniform Thread Form ~~3/8 inch 16 threads per~~ [[inch]] drive spindle 2, in a clockwise direction, rotating a potato for cutting;

a drive nut guide 11 with a drive nut 10 assembled to it, with drive nut 10 internally threaded with American Standard UniformThread Form, the drive nut guide 11 positions the drive nut 10 adjacent to the drive spindle 2 and applies manual pressure on the drive nut 10, engages the drive nut 10 threads to the drive spindle 2 threads ~~through a window opening 17 in the drive support 7,~~ causing forward motion of the rotating drive spindle 2, the drive spindle 2 being assembled internal to the drive support 7;

a means for driving with a drive element ~~the driver 3 has four flat teeth 16 of 7/16 inch length and is~~ assembled at

the forward end of the drive spindle 2 and secured by a second lock nut 12, the drive element ~~driver 3 teeth 16 penetrate a potato and~~ transfers the forward and rotary motion of the ~~hand cranked~~ drive spindle 2 to the potato thus forcing it into the cutting element ~~edge of the sharp blade 1~~ to produce a continuous spiral slice ~~approximating .0625 inch thickness~~ ;

a common [[the]] mounting element [[base 8]] as a means for attachment of component parts including ~~mounting of~~ the cutting element support, ~~blade 6,~~ [[and]] drive support 7, ~~sub-assemblies utilizes~~ four ~~rubber~~ support elements, [[legs 9]] and two ~~metal spring type~~ counter stop elements. ~~arms 14, to stabilize the apparatus in use on a table or counter top and during use of the apparatus the support legs 9 and counter stop arms 14 provide a means by which the apparatus remains stationary on a counter top or table with downward left hand pressure and forward right hand cranking pressure~~

~~during cutting of a potato requiring significant torque to accomplish the spiral slice cut, and avoiding the use of clamps or suction cup devices for the apparatus to remain in a stationary position and additionally the counter stop arms 14 prevent the handle 4 from contacting the counter top or table on which the apparatus is positioned as it nears the end of a cut.~~

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